

In the Court of Appeals of the State of Alaska

Shawn A. Justice,

Appellant,

v.

State of Alaska,

Appellee.

Court of Appeals No. **A-13151**

Order

Motion to Vacate 209(b) Judgment

Date of Order: **March 27, 2020**

Trial Court Case No. **4FA-16-01580CI, 4FA-10-00791CR**

Megan Rowe, attorney for the Appellant, Shawn Anthony Justice, filed a notice of appeal in this matter on May 21, 2018. The docketing statement she filed indicates that Ms. Rowe had been appointed to represent Mr. Justice and that she worked for Denali Law Group, a law firm that regularly takes cases on contract with the Office of Public Advocacy. The following day, this Court issued a Notice of Court Appointed Attorney notifying Mr. Justice that, pursuant to Appellate Rule 209(b), he would be required to pay the cost of appointed counsel at the termination of his appeal if his convictions were not reversed. All motions and briefs filed by Ms. Rowe in this matter indicate that she worked for Denali Law Group.

In January 2020, this Court issued an opinion and a notice of intent to enter judgment for the cost of appointed counsel in the amount of \$1,500. Neither Ms. Rowe nor Mr. Justice filed an objection, and judgment was entered on February 24, 2020.

Ms. Rowe has now filed a motion to vacate the Rule 209(b) judgment, stating that she represented Mr. Justice in this appeal *pro bono*, but she neglected to notify this Court.

We will accept Ms. Rowe's belated notice in this case that she represented Mr. Justice *pro bono* and not in her capacity as a court-appointed attorney despite the

Justice v. State of Alaska - p. 2
File No. A-13151
March 27, 2020

documents she filed suggesting otherwise. We caution her, however, that in all future cases, her filings must accurately reflect the nature of her representation and, if the status of her representation changes, she must immediately notify this Court.

Accordingly, the motion to vacate the Rule 209(b) judgment for cost of appointed counsel is VACATED.

Entered under the authority of Chief Judge Allard.

Clerk of the Appellate Courts

/s/ M. Montgomery

Meredith Montgomery

cc: Shared Services of Alaska

Distribution:

Email:
Rowe, Megan M.
Black, Ann B